

Sacramento Army Depot  
(Bencia Cemetary)  
Sacramento  
Sacramento County  
California

HAER No. CA-27

HAER  
CAL,  
34 - SAC,  
49 -

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Sacramento Army Depot

CA-27

HAER  
CAL,  
34-SAC,  
49-

Location: In Sacramento County, south of the American River and four miles east of the State Capitol in Sacramento, California. Bounded on the west by the Southern Pacific Railroad and on the south by Elder Creek Road.

Date of Construction: Established in 1945.

Owner: Department of the Army

Significance: Sacramento Army Depot was established on its present site at the end of World War II for the receipt and storage of materiel from the overseas war theaters.

Historical Report  
Prepared by:

Melvyn Green, Christy Johnson, Hisashi B. Sugaya, and Thomas Holtz, 1984.

Prepared for  
Transmittal by:

Robie S. Lange, HABS/HAER, 1985.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A part of the U.S. Army Depot System Command (DESCOM), Sacramento Army Depot is a major Army maintenance, repair, and storage facility located in Sacramento, California. Opened in 1945, the depot is composed of 116 buildings, 114 of which were constructed between 1945 and 1979. The remaining two buildings, formerly a farmhouse and garage, were constructed in 1925 and have been significantly altered. Major depot activities include the maintenance and repair of electronic equipment (including laser optics) and the storage and distribution of general supplies. Benicia Army Cemetery, located near San Francisco, California, is maintained by the depot. Situated on one acre, it contains one building, a stone masonry crypt built sometime between 1849 and 1880. There are no Category I or II historic properties at Sacramento Army Depot or Benicia Army Cemetery. The crypt at Benicia Army Cemetery is a Category III historic property. The cemetery itself is a part of the Benicia Arsenal historic district, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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## PREFACE

This report presents the results of an historic properties survey of the Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery. Prepared for the United States Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command (DARCOM), the report is intended to assist the Army in bringing these installations into compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its amendments, and related federal laws and regulations. To this end, the report focuses on the identification, evaluation, documentation, nomination, and preservation of historic properties at the Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery. Chapter 1 sets forth the survey's scope and methodology; Chapter 2 presents an architectural, historical, and technological overview of the installations and their properties; and Chapter 3 identifies significant properties by Army category and sets forth preservation recommendations. Illustrations and an annotated bibliography supplement the text.

This report is part of a program initiated through a memorandum of agreement between the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of the Army. The program covers 74 DARCOM installations and has two components: 1) a survey of historic properties (districts, buildings, structures, and objects), and 2) the development of archeological overviews. Stanley H. Fried, Chief, Real Estate Branch of Headquarters DARCOM, directed the program for the Army, and Dr. Robert J. Kapsch, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) directed the program for the National Park Service. Sally

Kress Tompkins was program manager, and Robie S. Lange was project manager for the historic properties survey. Technical assistance was provided by Donald C. Jackson.

Building Technology Incorporated acted as primary contractor to HABS/HAER for the historic properties survey. William A. Brenner was BTI's principal-in-charge, and Dr. Larry D. Lankton was the chief technical consultant. Major subcontractors were the MacDonald and Mack Partnership and Melvyn Green and Associates. The authors of this report were Melvyn Green, Christy Johnson, Hisashi B. Sugaya, and Thomas Holtz.

The authors gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Thomas D. Norris, Sacramento History Center; Aaron Gallup, State Office of Historic Preservation; and the staff of Sacramento Army Depot: Mark DeFrancis, Public Affairs Officer; Victoria Merriweather, Editor, Public Affairs Office; Tom Gutierrez; Ralph Miles, Facilities Engineer; and Mike Paradis, Public Affairs Office.

The complete HABS/HAER documentation for these installations will be included in the HABS/HAER collections at the Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, under the designation HAER No. CA- 27

## Chapter 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### SCOPE

This report is based on an historic properties survey conducted in 1983 of all Army-owned properties located within the official boundaries of the Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery. The survey included the following tasks:

- Completion of documentary research on the history of the installations and their properties.
- Completion of a field inventory of all properties at the installations.
- Preparation of a combined architectural, historical, and technological overview for the installations.
- Evaluation of historic properties and development of recommendations for preservation of these properties.

Also completed as a part of the historic properties survey of the installations, but not included in this report, are HABS/HAER Inventory cards for 32 individual properties. These cards, which constitute HABS/HAER Documentation Level IV, will be provided to the Department of the Army. Archival copies of the cards, with their accompanying photographic negatives, will be transmitted to the HABS/HAER collections at the Library of Congress.

The methodology used to complete these tasks is described in the following section of this report.

## METHODOLOGY

### 1. Documentary Research

Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery are facilities of the U.S. Army Depot System Command (DESCOM). The depot dates from the 1940s and the cemetery from the mid-19th century. The majority of the depot's structures are storage buildings, and the balance are primarily maintenance and repair facilities. The California State Office of Historic Preservation was contacted about possible historic properties at the depot; however, no properties were identified through this source. Additional information on the depot's role in the community was obtained from the Sacramento History Center at the City/County Museum and the local history and newspaper microfilm collections of the Sacramento City/County Library. Research material for Benicia Army Cemetery was obtained from the Benicia Chamber of Commerce and the book Benicia: Portrait of an Early California Town by Robert Brueggmann. Army records used for the field inventory included current Real Property Inventory (RPI) printouts that listed all officially recorded buildings and structures by facility classification and date of construction; the installation's property record cards; and base maps and photographs supplied by installation personnel. A complete history of documentary material may be found in the bibliography.



2. Field Inventory

The field inventory was conducted in January 1983 by Melvyn Green and Christy Johnson. Assistance was provided by Make Paradis, Acting Public Affairs Officer, and Ralph Miles, Facilities Engineer. The field survey of Benicia Army Cemetery was conducted by Hisushi B. Sugaya.

Field inventory procedures were based on the HABS/HAER Guidelines for Inventories of Historic Buildings and Engineering and Industrial Structures.<sup>1</sup>

All areas and properties were visually surveyed. Building locations and approximate dates of construction were noted from the installations' property records and field-verified.

Field inventory forms were prepared for, and black and white 35 mm photographs taken of all buildings and structures through 1945 except basic utilitarian structures of no architectural, historical, or technological interest. When groups of similar ("prototypical") buildings were found, one field form was normally prepared to represent all buildings of that type. Field inventory forms were also completed for representative post-1945 buildings and structures.<sup>2</sup> Information collected on the field forms was later evaluated, condensed, and transferred to HABS/HAER Inventory cards.

3. Historic Overview

A combined architectural, historical, and technological overview was prepared from information developed from the documentary research and

the field inventory. It was written in two parts: 1) an introductory description of the installation, and 2) a history of the installation by periods of development, beginning with pre-military land uses. Maps and photographs were selected to supplement the text as appropriate.

The objectives of the overview were to 1) establish the periods of major construction at the installation, 2) identify important events and individuals associated with specific historic properties, 3) describe patterns and locations of historic property types, and 4) analyze specific building and industrial technologies employed at the installation.

4. Property Evaluation and Preservation Measures

Based on information developed in the historical overviews, properties were first evaluated for historical significance in accordance with the eligibility criteria for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. These criteria require that eligible properties possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that they meet one or more of the following:<sup>3</sup>

- A. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in the nation's past.

- C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

Properties thus evaluated were further assessed for placement in one of five Army historic property categories as described in Army Regulation 420-40:<sup>4</sup>

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Category I   | Properties of major importance   |
| Category II  | Properties of importance   |
| Category III | Properties of minor importance   |
| Category IV  | Properties of little or no importance  |
| Category V   | Properties detrimental to the significance of<br>of adjacent historic properties |

Based on an extensive review of the architectural, historical, and technological resources identified on DARCOM installations nationwide, four criteria were developed to help determine the appropriate categorization level for each Army property. These criteria were used to assess the importance not only of properties of traditional historical interest, but of the vast number of standardized or prototypical buildings, structures, and production processes that were built and put into service during World War II, as well as of properties associated with many post-war

technological achievements. The four criteria were often used in combination and are as follows:

- 1) Degree of importance as a work of architectural, engineering, or industrial design. This criterion took into account the qualitative factors by which design is normally judged: artistic merit, workmanship, appropriate use of materials, and functionality.
- 2) Degree of rarity as a remaining example of a once widely used architectural, engineering, or industrial design or process. This criterion was applied primarily to the many standardized or prototypical DARCOM buildings, structures, or industrial processes. The more widespread or influential the design or process, the greater the importance of the remaining examples of the design or process was considered to be. This criterion was also used for non-military structures such as farmhouses and other once prevalent building types.
- 3) Degree of integrity or completeness. This criterion compared the current condition, appearance, and function of a building, structure, architectural assemblage, or industrial process to its original or most historically important condition, appearance, and function. Those properties that were highly intact were generally considered of greater importance than those that were not.
- 4) Degree of association with an important person, program, or event. This criterion was used to examine the relationship of a property to a famous personage, wartime project, or similar factor that lent the property special importance.

The majority of DARCOM properties were built just prior to or during World War II, and special attention was given to their evaluation. Those that still remain do not often possess individual importance, but collectively they represent the remnants of a vast construction undertaking whose architectural, historical, and technological importance needed to be assessed before their numbers diminished further. This assessment centered on an extensive review of the military construction of the 1940-1945 period, and its contribution to the history of World War II and the post-war Army landscape.

Because technology has advanced so rapidly since the war, post-World War II properties were also given attention. These properties were evaluated in terms of the nation's more recent accomplishments in weaponry, rocketry, electronics, and related technological and scientific endeavors. Thus the traditional definition of "historic" as a property 50 or more years old was not germane in the assessment of either World War II or post-war DARCOM buildings and structures; rather, the historic importance of all properties was evaluated as completely as possible regardless of age.

Property designations by category are expected to be useful for approximately ten years, after which all categorizations should be reviewed and updated.

Following this categorization procedure, Category I, II, and III historic properties were analyzed in terms of:

- Current structural condition and state of repair. This information was taken from the field inventory forms and photographs, and was often supplemented by rechecking with facilities engineering personnel.
- The nature of possible future adverse impacts to the property. This information was gathered from the installation's master planning documents and rechecked with facilities engineering personnel.

Based on the above considerations, the general preservation recommendations presented in Chapter 3 for Category I, II, and III historic properties were developed. Special preservation recommendations were created for individual properties as circumstances required.

5. Report Review

Prior to being completed in final form, this report was subjected to an in-house review by Building Technology Incorporated. It was then sent in draft to the subject installation for comment and clearance and, with its associated historical materials, to HABS/HAER staff for technical review. When the installation cleared the report, additional draft copies were sent to DARCOM, the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer, and, when requested, to the archeological contractor performing parallel work at the installation. The report was revised based on all comments collected, then published in final form.

NOTES

1. Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, Guidelines for Inventories of Historic Buildings and Engineering and Industrial Structures (unpublished draft, 1982).
2. Representative post-World War II buildings and structures were defined as properties that were: (a) "representative" by virtue of construction type, architectural type, function, or a combination of these, (b) of obvious Category I, II, or III historic importance, or (c) prominent on the installation by virtue of size, location, or other distinctive feature.
3. National Park Service, How to Complete National Register Forms (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, January 1977).
4. Army Regulation 420-40, Historic Preservation (Headquarters, U.S. Army: Washington, D.C., 15 April 1984).

## Chapter 2

### HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

#### BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Army Depot is located south of the American River and four miles east of the State Capitol in Sacramento, California. Occupying 485 acres, it is bounded on the west by the Southern Pacific Railroad and on the south by Elder Creek Road. The depot is responsible for the storage of general supplies and for the repair and maintenance of electronic equipment. It is currently part of the Army Depot System Command (DESCOM).

The history of the Sacramento Army Depot began in January 1942, one month after Pearl Harbor, when the Army's Western Defense Command established a general depot at Sacramento, and named it the Sacramento Advanced Communications Zone Depot. This facility occupied buildings on the California State Fairgrounds at Stockton Boulevard and 5th Avenue. In June 1942, the Army changed the depot's name to the California Quartermaster Sub-Depot, and the Signal Section was relocated to a series of warehouses on North 7th Street that were leased from the Bercut-Richards Packing Company.<sup>1</sup>

In 1943, the North 7th Street facility was named the Sacramento Signal Depot, and a maintenance division joined the Signal Section. Its function was to repair battle-damaged electronic gear. By 1944, the installation had become one of the most important in the Signal Corps supply chain.

The Army acquired the present Fruitridge Road site in early 1945 and began construction of a new Signal Corps depot to replace the North 7th Street



facility. Completed at war's end, its earliest function was the receipt and storage of materiel from the overseas war theaters. Thereafter, the depot assumed its intended role of storing, maintaining, and repairing electronic equipment.

During the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the depot's responsibilities were expanded to include night-vision equipment repair, television-audio support, automatic data processing, and increased electronics equipment maintenance. In 1962, the installation was renamed the Sacramento Army Depot.

In recent years the functions of the Sacramento Army Depot have been to 1) maintain and repair electronic equipment; 2) provide a repair service for its own testing equipment; 3) construct and assemble quick reaction projects such as self-contained radio transmitter sites and communications shelters; and 4) receive, store, preserve, inventory, and ship electronic equipment.<sup>2</sup>

#### PRE-MILITARY LAND USE AND WORLD WAR II CONSTRUCTION

The land on which the current depot stands was farmland before its acquisition in 1945. Two pre-military farm buildings remain. Building 603, a one-story farmhouse, and Building 604, a garage or outbuilding, were both constructed in 1925 and are located on the portion of the site that belonged to the Smith family. They have been significantly altered, and little remains of their original exteriors.

Initial construction plans for the depot called for over 1,000,000 square feet of warehousing space with an additional million square feet of open storage. Also planned were shops, railway facilities, administrative buildings, and housing for enlisted personnel, POWs, and officers.

During 1945-46, three main areas of the site were developed: 1) the southeast portion, with temporary wood frame one-story structures for administrative, storage, and housing facilities; 2) the central area, predominantly composed of semi-permanent structures for engineering, electrical maintenance, and water and sewage treatment; and 3) the north end, for warehouses and the post headquarters. (Figures 1 and 2)

Twelve temporary wood-frame structures (Buildings 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 666, 668, 670, 671, and 672) were constructed on the southeast portion of the site in 1945, all of which remain. They are simple, rectangular, one-story structures with gable roofs and exteriors of cement asbestos siding.

In the central area, the heating plant (Building 352), gas station (Building 384), and box and crate facility (Building 439) were constructed in 1946. The latter facility was built to fabricate wooden shipping containers and crates; it contains a conveyor system and an exhaust system for removing sawdust.<sup>3</sup>

At the north end, four major warehouses (Buildings 242, 244, 251, and 253) were built in 1946. They have reinforced concrete foundations and walls, flat roofs, oversized sliding doors, and fixed windows. Two warehouses have covered loading platforms. Each building is oriented to rail loading on one principal side and to truck loading on the other. Warehouse interiors are open, with steel trusses and exposed redwood joists. (Figure 3)

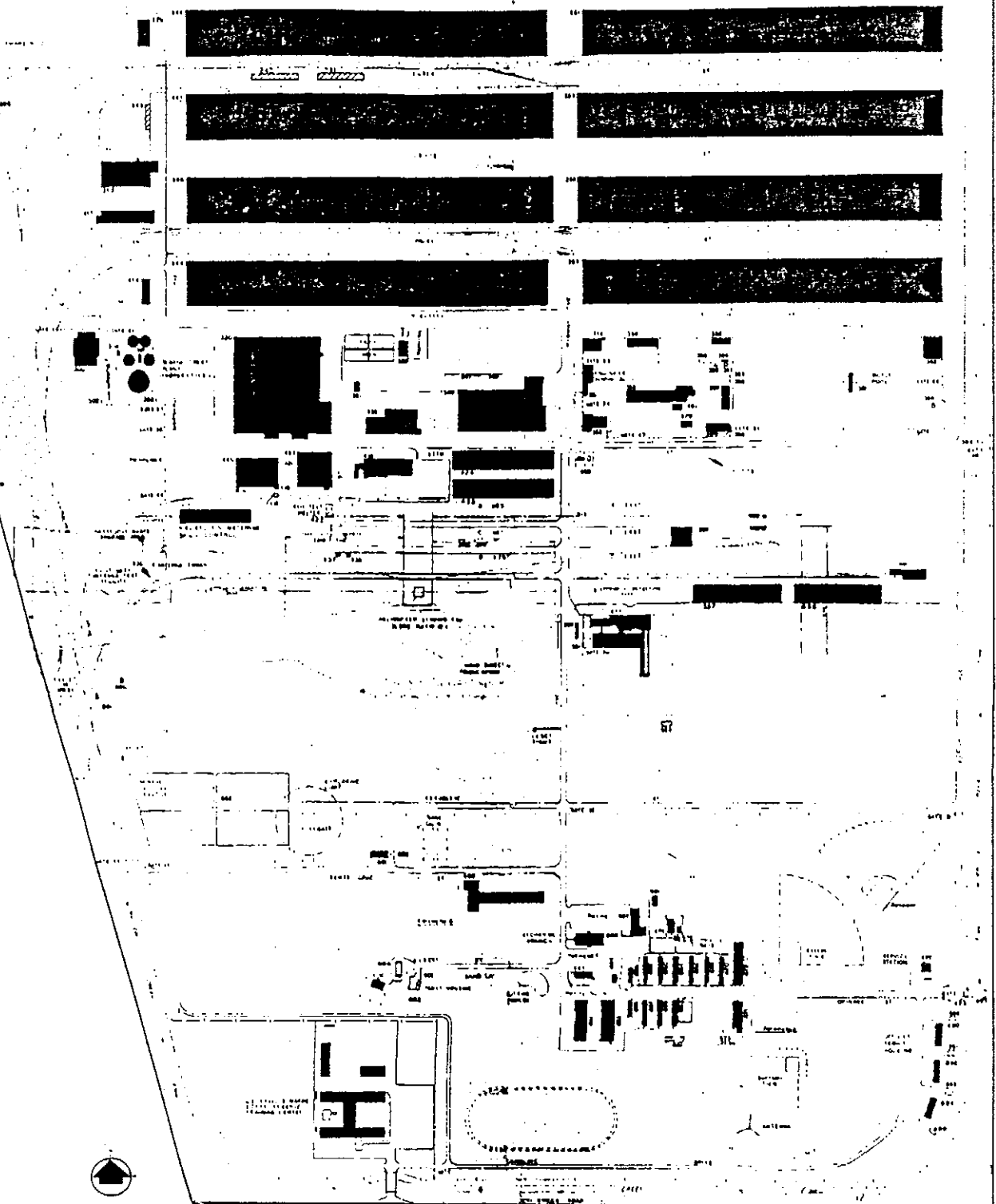


FIGURE 1 Map showing present 485 acre Sacramento Army Depot. The headquarters building and warehouse area are located at the north end of the depot, the maintenance complex is in the middle, and housing, recreation, and training facilities are at the south end. (Source: Sacramento Army Depot Master Plan, February 1982)



FIGURE 2 Aerial view of Sacramento Army Depot, looking south c.1970. The headquarters building is in the center foreground, and the eight major warehouses are located directly behind it. (Source: Sacramento Army Depot Public Affairs Office)

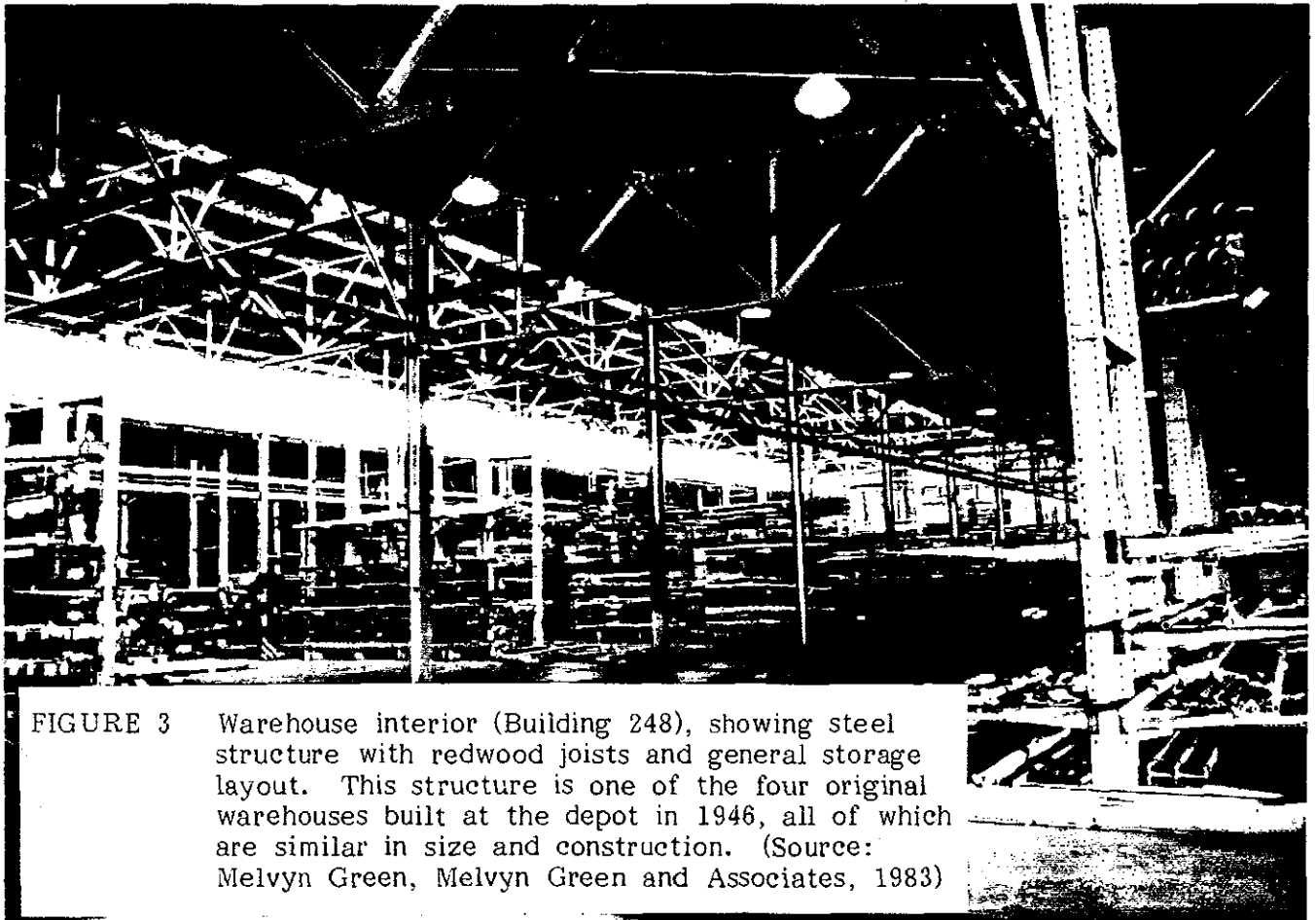


FIGURE 3 Warehouse interior (Building 248), showing steel structure with redwood joists and general storage layout. This structure is one of the four original warehouses built at the depot in 1946, all of which are similar in size and construction. (Source: Melvyn Green, Melvyn Green and Associates, 1983)

The post headquarters (Building 150) also dates from 1946, and is a two-story building in the art moderne style. Windows in the entrance pavilion are vertical, in contrast to the horizontal banding maintained on the rest of the primary facade. The structure is built of exposed reinforced concrete. (Figure 4)

The dispensary (Building 154) and restaurant (Building 149) flank the administration building to the east and west respectively, and are one-story wood-frame semi-permanent structures. The officers' mess (Building 140), a wood frame structure west of the headquarters, has been modernized. All three structures date from 1946.

In 1947, construction slowed, although finishing continued on the interiors of the four major warehouses. Three wood-frame residential structures for officers (Buildings 690, 692, and 694) were built in the southeast corner of the site in that year.

#### KOREAN WAR

The depot's activities escalated during the Korean conflict, which stimulated an accelerated ten million dollar construction program. Four additional reinforced concrete warehouses (Buildings 246, 248, 255, and 257) were built in 1952-53 to match the original four warehouse buildings of 1946. The maintenance directorate facility (Building 320) was also constructed in 1953. Similar in overall design to the headquarters building, it has prominent horizontally-banded windows and is constructed of reinforced concrete. Other buildings constructed between 1952 and 1954 are facilities for vehicle repair and storage, cable processing, salvage, flammable storage, and refrigerated battery storage. (Figures 5 and 6)

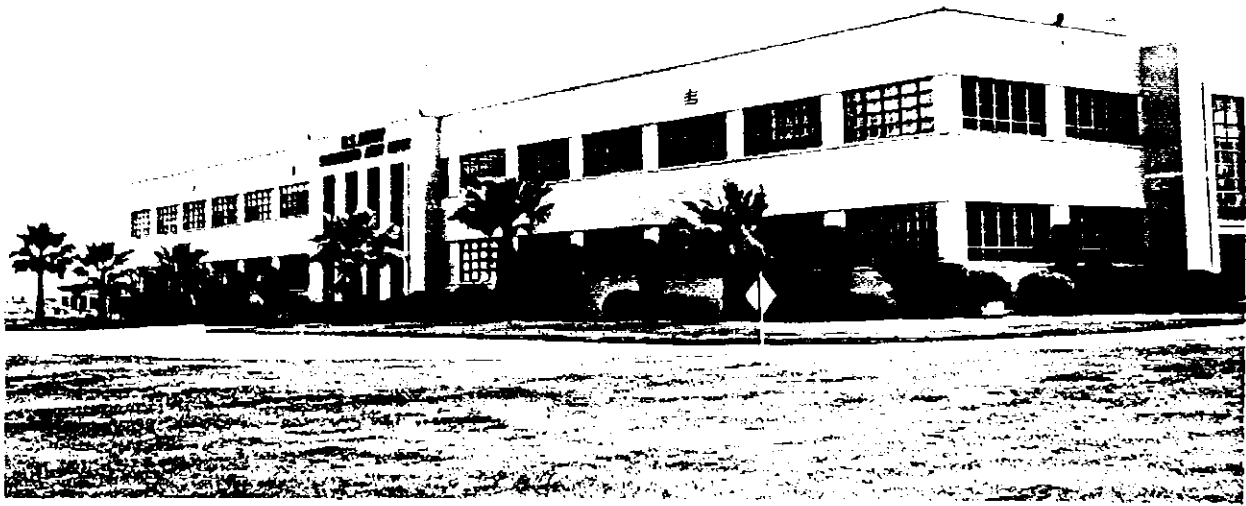


FIGURE 4 Headquarters building, c.1955. Completed in 1946, the headquarters building is constructed of reinforced concrete in a simplified art moderne style. (Source: Sacramento Army Depot Public Affairs Office)

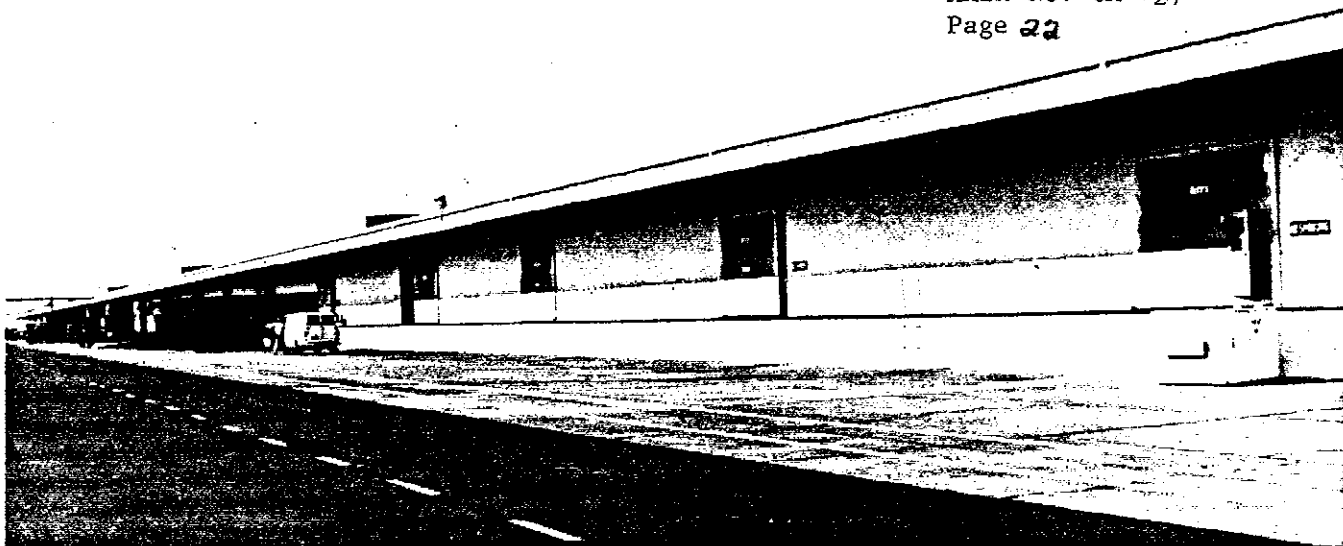


FIGURE 5 Warehouse exterior (Building 257), showing truck loading docks. This structure is one of the four warehouses built in 1953, all of which are similar in size and construction to the four 1946 warehouses.  
(Source: Field inventory photograph, Melvyn Green, Melvyn Green and Associates, 1983)

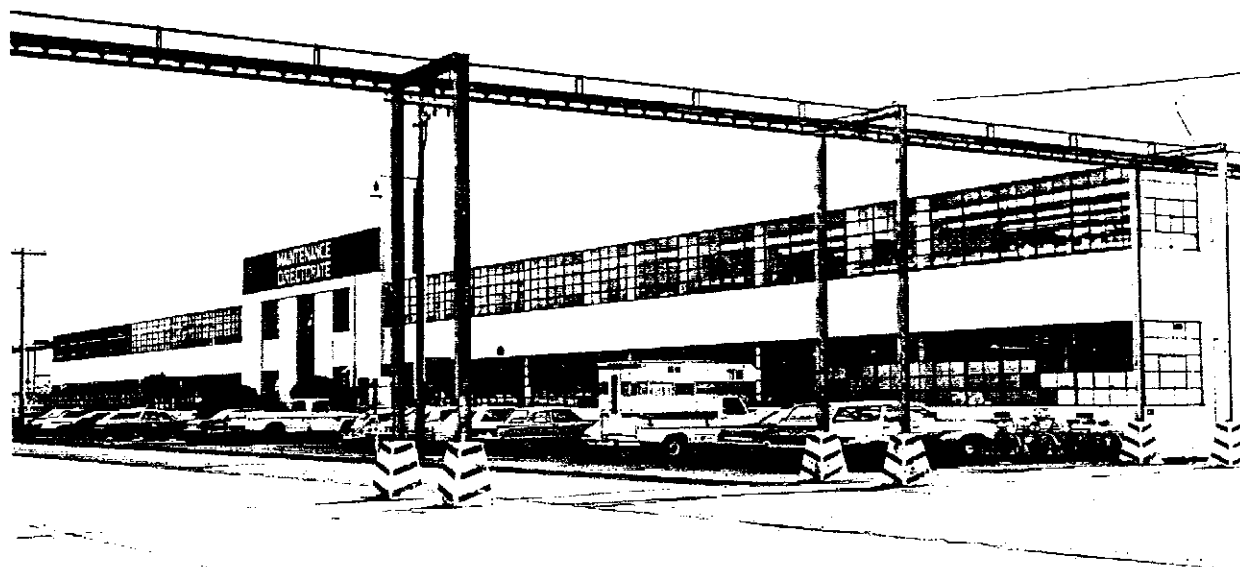


FIGURE 6 Maintenance directorate facility (Building 320), constructed in 1953 as part of increased electronic repair responsibilities delegated to the depot during the Korean War.  
(Source: Sacramento Army Depot Public Affairs Office)

### POST KOREAN WAR CONSTRUCTION

In 1957, a two-story reinforced concrete and block barracks (Building 650) was built to house recruits; it now houses military reservists who train at the depot. Between 1962 and 1968, 16 facilities were constructed, including storage sheds (Buildings 240, 241, 349, 350, 557, and 558), an NCO open mess facility (Building 682), and a skill development center (Building 601).

Since 1970, many of Sacramento Army Depot's facilities have been modernized. Existing facilities have been renovated to accommodate the depot's special functions, including automatic data processing (ADP) services, lense coating, laser repair, and calibration testing. Recent construction includes the electronic maintenance shops (Buildings 423 and 420) built in 1970 and 1977, and a one-story modern residence for the Commanding Officer (Building 600) built in 1972.

### BENICIA ARMY CEMETERY

Benicia Army Cemetery is the last Army-owned portion of what was once the oldest military installation in California, the Benicia Arsenal. Acquired by the U.S. government in 1849, the arsenal site is located 26 miles northeast of San Francisco and overlooks Carquinez Strait, a deep body of water connecting San Francisco to the inland deltas. Portions of the site served as infantry quarters (1849-1924), a supply depot (1849-1858), and an arsenal (1850-1864).<sup>4</sup> The arsenal supplied weapons for coastal defense and for protection of settlers in the 19th century. It remained an active installation through the 1950s.<sup>4</sup>



In 1964, the Army transferred the facility's responsibilities to Tooele Ordnance Depot in Tooele, Utah and closed the arsenal. The Army kept the cemetery, a one-acre parcel located north of the former arsenal complex. The cemetery dates from the founding of the arsenal in 1849. Headstones date from 1853 to 1958. The southern half of the cemetery contains burial plots for American dead, the northern half for World War II prisoners of war. The only structure in the cemetery is a small crypt, built between the opening of the cemetery and 1880, when records indicate that bodies were temporarily interred there. It has a sandstone exterior, a vaulted stone ceiling, and a metal grillwork entrance. After the close of Benicia Arsenal in 1964, Sacramento Army Depot assumed responsibility for the maintenance of the cemetery. (Figure 7) The cemetery is part of the Benicia Arsenal Historic District that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### NOTES

1. Sacramento Army Depot, General Historical Summary, 1941-1966, p. 1.
2. Sacramento Army Depot, DARCOM Installation and Activity Brochure (1978), p. 2.
3. Sacramento Signal Depot Scrapbook, Vol. 1.
4. Robert Brueggemann. Benicia: Portrait of an Early California Town (San Francisco: Historic American Buildings Survey and Esson, 101 Publishers, 1980), pp. 64-66.

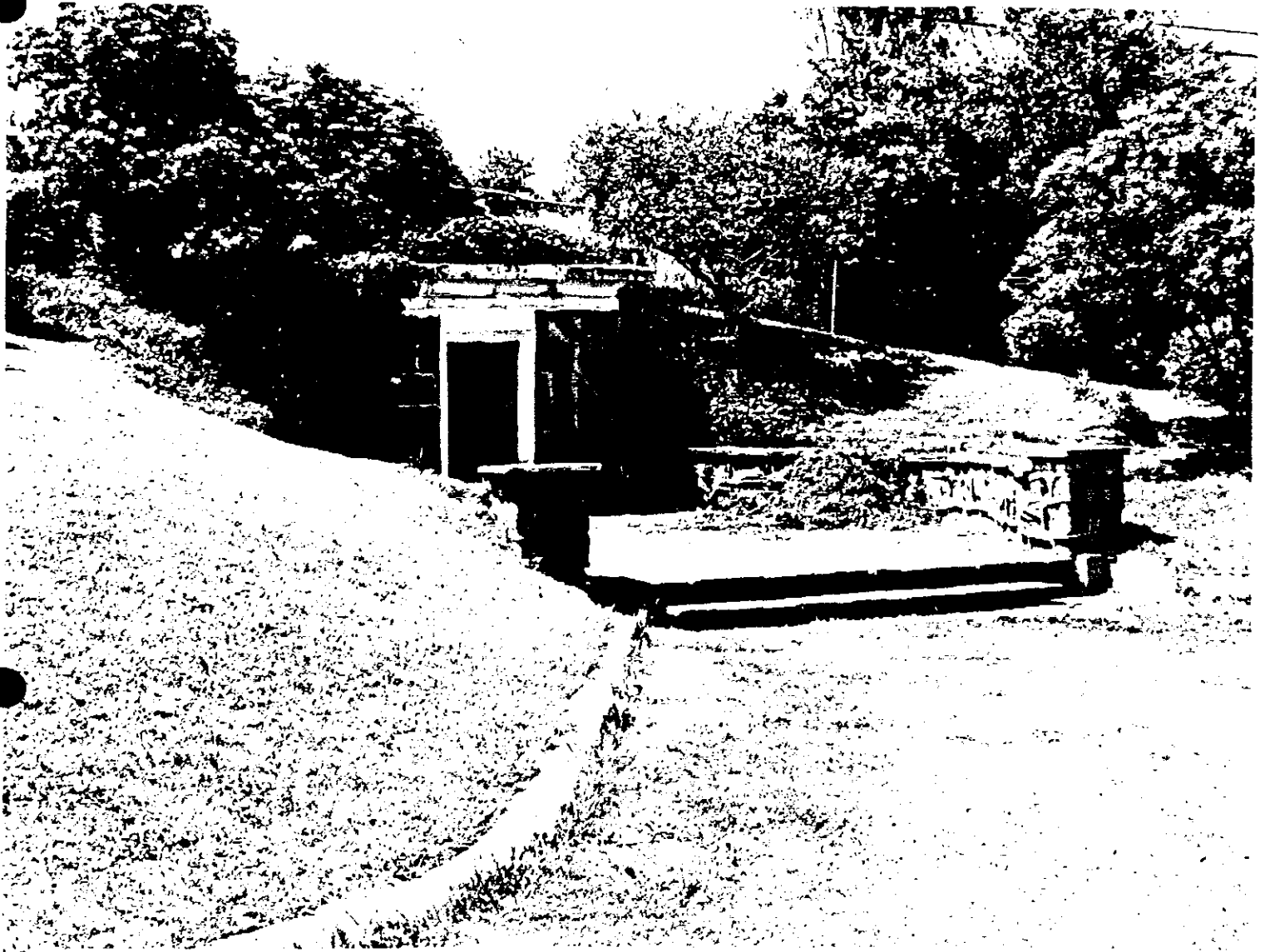


FIGURE 7 Crypt, Benicia Army Cemetery. Built sometime between 1849 and 1880, the crypt is the only building on the cemetery property and the last remaining Army-owned building from the Benicia Arsenal. It has sandstone walls, a vaulted stone ceiling, a metal grillwork entry door, and an Egyptian revival gorge and role cornice.

### Chapter 3

## PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

### BACKGROUND

Army Regulation 420-40 requires that an historic preservation plan be developed as an integral part of each installation's planning and long range maintenance and development scheduling.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of such a program is to:

- Preserve historic properties to reflect the Army's role in history and its continuing concern for the protection of the nation's heritage.
- Implement historic preservation projects as an integral part of the installation's maintenance and construction programs.
- Find adaptive uses for historic properties in order to maintain them as actively used facilities on the installation.
- Eliminate damage or destruction due to improper maintenance, repair, or use that may alter or destroy the significant elements of any property.
- Enhance the most historically significant areas of the installation through appropriate landscaping and conservation.

To meet these overall preservation objectives, the general preservation recommendations set forth below have been developed:

#### Category I Historic Properties

All Category I historic properties not currently listed on or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places are assumed to be eligible for nomination

regardless of age. The following general preservation recommendations apply to these properties:

- a) Each Category I historic property should be treated as if it were on the National Register, whether listed or not. Properties not currently listed should be nominated. Category I historic properties should not be altered or demolished. All work on such properties shall be performed in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800).
- b) An individual preservation plan should be developed and put into effect for each Category I historic property. This plan should delineate the appropriate restoration or preservation program to be carried out for the property. It should include a maintenance and repair schedule and estimated initial and annual costs. The preservation plan should be approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council in accordance with the above referenced ACHP regulation. Until the historic preservation plan is put into effect, Category I historic properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings<sup>2</sup> and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

- c) Each Category I historic property should be documented in accordance with Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Documentation Level II, and the documentation submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.<sup>3</sup> When no adequate architectural drawings exist for a Category I historic property, it should be documented in accordance with Documentation Level I of these standards. In cases where standard measured drawings are unable to record significant features of a property or technological process, interpretive drawings also should be prepared.

#### Category II Historic Properties

All Category II historic properties not currently listed on or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places are assumed to be eligible for nomination regardless of age. The following general preservation recommendations apply to these properties:

- a) Each Category II historic property should be treated as if it were on the National Register, whether listed or not. Properties not currently listed should be nominated. Category II historic properties should not be altered or demolished. All work on such properties shall be performed in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800).

- b) An individual preservation plan should be developed and put into effect for each Category II historic property. This plan should delineate the appropriate preservation or rehabilitation program to be carried out for the property or for those parts of the property which contribute to its historical, architectural, or technological importance. It should include a maintenance and repair schedule and estimated initial and annual costs. The preservation plan should be approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council in accordance with the above referenced ACHP regulations. Until the historic preservation plan is put into effect, Category II historic properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings<sup>4</sup> and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.
- c) Each Category II historic property should be documented in accordance with Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Documentation Level II, and the documentation submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.<sup>5</sup>

#### Category III Historic Properties

The following preservation recommendations apply to Category III historic properties:

- a) Category III historic properties listed on or eligible for nomination to the National Register as part of a district or thematic group should be treated in accordance with Sections 106 and 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended in 1980, and the regulations of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation as outlined in the "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR 800). Such properties should not be demolished and their facades, or those parts of the property that contribute to the historical landscape, should be protected from major modifications. Preservation plans should be developed for groupings of Category III historic properties within a district or thematic group. The scope of these plans should be limited to those parts of each property that contribute to the district or group's importance. Until such plans are put into effect, these properties should be maintained in accordance with the recommended approaches in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings<sup>6</sup> and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.
- b) Category III historic properties not listed on or eligible for nomination to the National Register as part of a district or thematic group should receive routine maintenance. Such properties should not be demolished, and their facades, or those parts of the property that contribute to the historical landscape, should be protected from modification. If the properties are unoccupied, they should, as a minimum, be maintained in stable condition and prevented from deteriorating.

HABS/HAER Documentation Level IV has been completed for all Category III historic properties, and no additional documentation is required as long as they are not endangered. Category III historic properties that are endangered for operational or other reasons should be documented in accordance with HABS/HAER Documentation Level III, and submitted for inclusion in the HABS/HAER collections in the Library of Congress.<sup>7</sup> Similar structures need only be documented once.

#### CATEGORY I HISTORIC PROPERTIES

There are no Category I historic properties at Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery.

#### CATEGORY II HISTORIC PROPERTIES

There are no Category II historic properties at Sacramento Army Depot and Benicia Army Cemetery.

#### CATEGORY III HISTORIC PROPERTIES

##### Crypt, Benicia Army Cemetery

- Background and significance. The stone crypt at Benicia Army Cemetery is the only building on the cemetery grounds. It is believed to have been built sometime between 1849, when the cemetery was established, and 1880, when records substantiate its use for the temporary internment of bodies before burial. Set into the side of a hill, the crypt is rectangular in plan and made of ashlar sandstone. It has an Egyptian revival



gorge and roll cornice, a metal grillwork entrance, and a vaulted stone ceiling. Two low, curving rusticated stone walls flank a flagstone platform that forms the entrance to the crypt. The building is currently used for tool storage. (See Chapter 2, Benicia Army Cemetery, and illustration 7.) The crypt is a part of the Benicia Arsenal Historic District that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is a Category III historic property because of its association with the Arsenal and because it is the sole remaining Army-owned building.

- Condition and potential adverse impacts. The crypt is considered by maintenance personnel to be in poor structural condition due to through-wall water migration from its surrounding earth covering, which has eroded the building's mortar in the rear and side walls and structurally weakened them. The exterior stone cornice also shows signs of significant deterioration. The Army currently plans to close the crypt and fill the interior with rubble to secure the building's side and rear walls against lateral ground pressure.
- Preservation options. The crypt is an important element of the cemetery and should be preserved. A preservation plan should be prepared for the long term maintenance, and perhaps restoration, of the structure in accordance with the preservation recommendations at the beginning of this chapter for Category III historic properties listed on the National Register.

NOTES

1. Army Regulation 420-40, Historic Preservation (Headquarters, U.S. Army: Washington, D.C., 15 April 1984).
2. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Revised Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, 1983 (Washington, D.C.: Preservation Assistance Division, National Park Service, 1983).
3. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines," Federal Register, Part IV, 28 September 1983, pp. 44730-44734.
4. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards.
5. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation."
6. National Park Service, Secretary of the Interior's Standards.
7. National Park Service, "Archeology and Historic Preservation."

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